




# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Governing Board

**FROM:**  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

**DATE:** March 1, 2006

**SUBJECT:** **Agenda Item XI: Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of properties in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreement No. 2480 using funds from Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District Nos. 1 and 2, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acquisition of properties in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreement No. 2480 using funds from Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District Nos. 1 and 2 and making any necessary additions to the relevant Engineer's Reports, City of Los Angeles.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) commonly enters into Chapter 8 Agreements with Los Angeles County to acquire tax defaulted properties. This process is an essential component of the agency's efforts to increase the amount of protected open space in southern California.

Chapter 8 Agreement Number 2480 contains 11 parcels totaling 7.41 acres in the City of Los Angeles. In order for the County Treasurer and Tax Collector to finalize the agreement, the MRCA must provide a resolution authorizing the acquisition of the parcels. The Citizens Oversight Committees for both Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District Nos. 1 and 2 have adopted resolutions determining that the subject parcels are consistent with the relevant Engineer's Report and recommending the addition of any parcels as necessary. The Los Angeles City Council has also adopted a resolution concurring with the purchase price of each parcel.

The table below includes each parcel, its size, general location, and current cost to the MRCA. The cost estimate is projected through April 2006. Unfortunately, the cost of the parcels increases substantially every year as penalties and back taxes increase. That rate of increase is approximately 1.5 percent per month. A brief

description of each parcel, or cluster of parcels, follows along with attached aerial photographs with the parcel boundaries. County fees could add up to \$5,000 to the total purchase price.

#### **Agreement Number 2480**

<b>APN</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Sub-Area</b>	<b>Price</b>
2277-018-005	0.11	Sherman Oaks	A	\$7,721
2428-028-034	0.06	Cahuenga Pass	C	\$1,124
4371-039-009	0.12	Beverly Glen	B	\$2,195
4379-021-023	0.06	Beverly Glen	B	\$3,672
4379-023-022	0.06	Beverly Glen	B	\$1,588
4380-017-031	0.12	Beverly Glen	B	\$7,475
4380-021-008	0.12	Beverly Glen	B	\$1,547
4380-032-003	0.12	Beverly Glen	B	\$7,784
4419-015-026	6.42	Pacific Palisades	H	\$83,296
5556-015-015	0.11	Laurel Cyn.	D	\$877
5565-027-040	0.11	Laurel Cyn.	D	\$30,961
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7.41</b>			<b>\$148,240</b>

#### **Sherman Oaks**

The single parcel is in the Hopevale-Pacheco area where staff is actively pursuing acquisitions. The parcel is on the District No. 1 Engineer's Report.

#### **Cahuenga Pass**

The single property in the Cahuenga Pass is located in a key wildlife corridor between the pass and Runyon Canyon Park. The action would add the parcel to the District No. 1 Engineer's Report.

#### **Beverly Glen**

The six properties in the Beverly Glen area are located in high quality habitat areas on both side of Beverly Glen Boulevard. Each contributes to habitat connectivity between Stone Canyon Reservoir and Benedict Canyon. This action would add each parcel to the District No. 1 Engineer's Report.

**Pacific Palisades**

The 6.42 acre property in Pacific Palisades provides important viewshed and habitat along Sunset Boulevard. The parcel is on the District No. 2 Engineer's Report.

**Laurel Canyon**

One of two Laurel Canyon parcels 5556-015-015 is located above the Sunset Plaza area just outside the Laurel Canyon watershed boundary. It provides habitat connectivity in the system of open space areas above Sunset Boulevard.

The second parcel 5565-027-040 is adjacent to an MRCA property in a key habitat linkage across Laurel Canyon Boulevard. Both parcels are on the District No. 1 Engineer's Report.